
Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs
Week of September 30, 2011

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1. "Gala at the Governor's Mansion" to Benefit Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery Beautification Foundation

The Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery Beautification Foundation will host the benefit, "Gala at the Governor's Mansion", on Wednesday, October 12 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Grand Hall of the Governor's Mansion on 1800 Center Street in Little Rock.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. Individual tickets are \$50 and a table of ten is \$500. To purchase tickets or learn more, call Karilyn Brown at 501-835-9180. Tickets can also be purchased online

2. ADVA Hosts Outreach Fair for Delta Veterans

Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA) has teamed up with other area agencies and organizations to host the "Eastern Arkansas Veterans Outreach Fair" on Saturday, October 29 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

The event, to be held at the UAMS/Delta AHEC Center on 1393 Highway 242 South, will educate veterans on what benefits are available to them as well as the updates to their VA healthcare. Health screenings and information on employment will also be available. The theme for the event is " 'Keeping the Promise' to the Veterans of the Arkansas Delta and Surrounding Areas."

Joining ADVA in sponsoring the event is VA Medical Center Memphis, VARO Little Rock, UAMS/Delta AHEC, Helena Health Foundation, UAMS VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic Helena, Phillips County Chamber of Commerce and Helena Regional Medical Center.

Other participating agencies include U.S. Small Business Administration, Department of Workforce

Services, Division of Human Services Office of Human Resource, Vet Centers of Arkansas, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Arkansas Disabled American Veterans, Arkansas Association of Women Veterans, Employer Support Guard and Reserve Military OneSource, Army OneSource, Arkansas National Guard Transition Assistance, Survivor Outreach Services (SOS), Arkansas State Voter Registration Awareness, Phillips Community College, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute, East Arkansas Community College, Mid-South Community College Coahoma Community College, Arkansas State University – BECK Pride, Lee County Family Resource Center, Wal-Mart human resource department, Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel human resource department and Hope Credit Union.

The event is free to all veterans who are encouraged to bring their DD-214, although not required. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served for lunch. For more information, contact ADVA at 501-370-3820.

3. Veterans Health Administration Waiver Regulations Reminder

VHA HANDBOOK 1601B.05, SECTION 10, PARA D:

d. **Waiver Period.** A veteran granted a waiver must promptly inform VA of any household income status change during the waiver period that results in the veteran no longer meeting the requirements outlined under paragraph 10

(c). Waivers are valid;

(1) Through the end of the calendar year in which the application was made or

(2) Until there is a change in the beneficiary's household income during the calendar year in which the application was made that results in the beneficiary no longer meeting the requirement outlined under paragraph 10 (c).

4. LRAFB Access after Jan 4, 2012

Attention all military ID cardholders (Active, Retired, Guard, Reserve, Dependents in all uniformed categories, Contractors and Civilians): The base fully implements the DBIDS (Defense Biometrics Identification System) on Jan. 4, 2012. If you haven't had your military ID card scanned into DBIDS by that date, you will be denied entry to the installation. You can have your ID card scanned at the Visitor's Center, Pass and ID in Bldg. 1255 or at the 189th Airlift Wing's Bldg. 103. Don't wait until the last minute.

5. Housing Payment Difficulties? VA Can Help

To learn how, visit: <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/4762/housing-payment-difficulties-va-can-help/>

6. Agent Orange: Institute of Medicine Reports

On September 29, 2011, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released, "[Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2010](#)*†," a review every two years of the long-term health effects of herbicides on Vietnam Veterans. VA is assessing this IOM report to determine whether there will be any changes to its policies. To view the reports from 1994, visit: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/institute-of-medicine.asp>

7. New TRICARE Prime Enrollees to Pay Adjusted Annual Fees

Military retirees enrolling in the TRICARE Prime health plan after Oct. 1 will begin paying slightly higher annual fees, Pentagon officials announced yesterday. The fee change for fiscal 2012 means the plan will cost \$260 per year for members and \$520 per year for members and family. The increase amounts to an additional \$2.50 per month for individual members and \$5 per month for members and family, officials said. Active duty service members receive health care with no out-of-pocket costs.

For more information, visit: <http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=65487>

ADVA Vet News is a weekly email update providing information of interest to Service Officers and Veterans. Information has been provided from a variety of sources and does not necessarily constitute an opinion or position by ADVA.

A service of the [Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs](#) Public Information Department, 1501 W. Maryland Ave, N. Little Rock, AR 72120

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